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IDW Version 2

The IDW Team is preparing to release IDW Version 2 on November 5th with a new incremental load, increased alignment with STARS, data clean-up and enhancements, and business area modifications.

Incremental Load

With IDW Version 2, the IDW Team is implementing an incremental load which only refreshes data changed since the previous load instead of refreshing all fiscal year data. Incremental loads take far less time to run so early morning IDW users will be less likely to have to wait for the nightly load to complete before running updated reports. IDW also plans to refresh data in a separate server from where users work to minimize slowdowns in processing speed and periods when no data is available. These changes are the first steps toward the goal of providing multiple data refreshes a day.

STARS Alignment

IDW and STARS reports contain many similar measures. These measures, however, do not always have the same names or definitions. IDW measures are tailored for program management and STARS measures are tailored for accounting. This is appropriate for the majority of users, yet for those that have access to both systems, this has been confusing. Therefore, the IDW and STARS Teams have worked together to align the measures they have in common. Given this alignment, reports run with the same measures in either system should provide the same results, with the caveat that IDW data lags behind STARS by one day. Always double-check the IDW Data Status on the Portal to see the time and date for the STARS data load.

Data Clean-Up and Enhancements

The IDW Team will be making the following data changes with Version 2:
- Funding – Provide additional hierarchies from STARS.
- Program – Remove duplicate columns and provide additional hierarchies, like Strategic Theme.
- Contracts/Small Business – Remove duplicate columns, fix column defaults, and provide additional attributes from PADS.
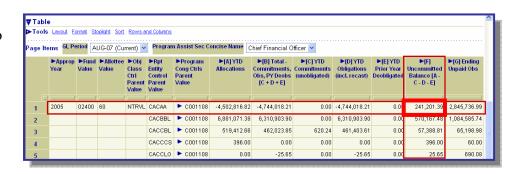
Business Area Modifications (Plus Users)

The IDW Team is merging Status of Obligational Authority and Cumulative Financial Measure Balances Business Areas into a new SOOA Monthly Summary Business Area. This new area will contain the majority of data that our users need. We expect that you can do at least 90% of your reporting using SOOA Monthly Summary. IDW is also removing two old Business Areas, Common Management Reports and STARS-IDW Reconciliation, which have not been used in standard reports for a year. Instead, you should use Payables Subledger Information, Purchasing Subledger Information, or Cumulative SGL Detail.

Updated Funds Control Report FCTL011

Answering the question "How much money do I have left?" should not be challenging. The IDW Team is aware of the problems that users have been having and in response has developed a new version of the Funds Control report, FCTL011 Status of Funds Available.

The new FCTL011 Status of Funds Available report opens to a Summary Worksheet, which provides your uncommitted balances (Column F) by the funds control segments (appropriation year, fund value, allottee value, object class, reporting entity, and program).

Even if you provide a detail level value for a parameter, such as program, the report will roll-up to the parent value. The answer to the question "How much money do I have left?" can only be answered from the Summary Worksheet. The Detail Worksheet is just provided for you to review the underlying values for your results.

The new FCTL011 report also has two new features that will be implemented into other Discoverer reports in the future. The two features are:

- Parameters with Value and Index Options – You can select parameters in two ways. For example, you can select Allottee by value 'WA – Capital Accounting Center' or by index '60' as you prefer. The index is a useful option if you have an accounting line from STARS, but no other information.

- Links between Worksheets within a Workbook – Once you have run the Summary Worksheet, you can open the Detail Worksheet without having to re-select your parameter values. Additionally, you can click the blue carrot on an individual rolled-up program parent value to see the child accounts that belong to it without having to expand all the parent values.

STRIPES Project Update

The Strategic Integrated Procurement Enterprise System (STRIPES) project is a Department-wide initiative to increase the efficiency of the acquisition workforce with a focus on contract and grant management. As another component of the I-MANAGE program, STRIPES will be integrated with STARS and IDW.

While STRIPES has dozens of system reports, the system will rely on IDW for its ad hoc reporting capability. As STRIPES gears up for its major User Acceptance Testing, the project has collaborated with key Finance, Budget, Accounting and Reporting and Policy representatives. STRIPES will begin Deployment Phase activities in January 2008.

For more information on the project, please e-mail the STRIPES Team at STRIPES@hq.doe.gov or visit their webpage on the I-MANAGE website at http://www.cfo.doe.gov/corpsyst/i-manage/STRIPES.htm.

IDW Project Information

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